

I am outraged that the FCC is looking to limit the free speech of ANY radio station. While I may not agree with everything going over the air waves I vote by turning off what I find offensive on radio, television, and any other news source.

The particulars in this case, the right to broadcast local traffic and weather, points to the FCC trampling the rights of free speech in the interest of protecting private interests.

The radio stations in New York seem to be unaware that the local area includes more than the bridges and tunnels of New York City. In fact, I know more about traffic conditions in New Jersey than on Long Island. When Long Island is mentioned they stick to the Northern State Parkway, Southern State Parkway, and the Long Island Expressway. Apparently the three major north/south roads in Nassau County and the one in Suffolk County are not on the radar screens of local radio stations. Of the few stations on Long Island I have found only one that broadcasts traffic and they only do so once an hour during rush hour. This means I rarely know road conditions until I am in them myself. The local news station does cover this well, however, I do not have a cable television in my car or at my job.

The XM traffic and weather reports have been the only place where I have actually heard timely and accurate reporting when I need it. It has also come in handy during our trips outside of our local area where we do not know what the local radio stations.

I implore the FCC to leave this issue as it stands. Removing XM traffic and weather will not entice me to listen more local radio (I had all but given up on that quite a long time before XM was available). Rather, it will be depriving me of useful information by a service I already pay for. The only way I will get local information is by moving to New York City or New Jersey.